

2018 Democratic Party of Oregon Priority Legislative Action Items

Create, adopt, or implement Legislation to, or for:

1. As health care is a human right, adopt an equitable, high-quality, comprehensive, universal, publicly-funded healthcare system including general, preventative, and emergency care, plus vision, dental, hearing, prescription drugs, long-term care, substance abuse, hospice care, and mental health services at the state or federal level.
2. Swiftly enact the Clean Energy Jobs Bill and continue to reduce greenhouse gases based on full life cycle emissions to meet the Paris Climate Agreement, fund renewable energy, energy efficiency, promote carbon sequestration, and fund training and job creation, especially for the benefit of rural, low-income, and minority communities.
3. Amend the U.S. and Oregon constitutions to clarify that the rights protected by the U.S. Constitution are the rights of natural persons only, and government shall regulate, limit or prohibit campaign contributions and expenditures to ensure that corporations and wealthy individuals do not dominate the political process.
4. Ban the sale and purchase of military-grade and assault weapons, such as AR-15s, and equipment used to modify weapons into assault weapons. Limit magazine capacity to 10 rounds. Raise the minimum age of long gun purchases from 18 to 21. Fund and implement buy-back programs for those weapons and magazines.
5. Repeal mandatory minimum sentencing in Oregon allowing judicial discretion on individual cases.
6. Repeal the Dickey Amendment and resume public research into gun violence in the United States and fund comprehensive research to form evidence-based gun ownership and use controls.
7. Classify ISPs as public utilities, create laws that allow state and local governments to implement community-owned ISPs, allow common access to publicly owned infrastructure, public rights of way, and utility easements, and provide funding for rural communities to access broadband internet. Prevent ISPs from distributing or selling user data.
8. Repeal the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947 (29 U.S.C. §141-197, the Taft-Hartley Act) which unjustly restricts the powers and activities of labor unions. Strengthen protections for collective bargaining and to protect the rights of workers to freely assemble and organize.
9. Prohibit privatized law enforcement, prisons, jails, detention facilities, probation, parole, and the outsourcing of food, phone, and all other criminal justice related services to for-profit corporations.
10. Prohibit immigration enforcement, including arrests, interviews, searches, and surveillance at medical and other healthcare facilities, schools, colleges, places of worship, courthouses, and government facilities not specifically designated as immigration enforcement facilities.
11. Implement sustainable, renewable, public energy infrastructure projects to replace non-renewable energy infrastructure, utilizing publicly-funded retrain-to-hire programs, paid at union scale, and union project labor agreements, prioritizing Oregon-sourced materials and technologies, to prevent worker displacement, greatly reducing greenhouse gas pollution (especially methane, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen oxides).
12. Revise corporate taxes to increase their contribution to the state general fund and enact financial services transaction fees solely dedicated to fully funding Oregon's Quality Education Model (QEM).
13. Prohibit the United States from abandoning its existing signatory acceptance of the Paris Climate Agreement, implement its provisions at the federal and state levels, move aggressively to replace fossil fuel energy sources, and support those states, including Oregon, that continue to uphold the agreement.
14. Adopt Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Deferred Action for Parents of Americans (DAPA) and other programs to keep families together.
15. Fund basic and applied research and review at public educational institutions, including research on climate change and emerging technologies.
16. Enforce the unfulfilled obligations of existing treaties between the United States government and Native American tribes, such as land claims of the Standing Rock Sioux, and facilitate the restoration of communities in the Columbia Gorge and other areas in Oregon.
17. Adopt the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact in order to assure every citizen's vote for the positions of President and Vice President of the United States is equal.
18. Adjust the tax structure for corporations who fail pay their employees a living wage with benefits so as to reimburse Oregon taxpayers for the government subsidies provided, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Oregon Health Plan (OHP).
19. Enable Oregon students to attend public college regardless of their ability to pay. Fund post-secondary public education for Oregon students, including community colleges, career and vocational training, colleges, and universities.
20. Prohibit the development of Oregon waterways and coastal regions for offshore drilling and the transportation and export or import of fossil fuels and fossil fuel derivatives.
21. Fully fund community clinics and health centers that serve low-income, homeless, and rural populations.
22. Enact a strict and enforceable timeline for 100% renewable electricity by 2026 and no other fossil fuel use by 2050 at the local, state, and federal level.